

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 33

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SOFIA 1680

FOR CU/EE; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL, BU

SUBJECT: THRACIAN ART EXHIBIT

1. PROF. ALEKSANDUR FOL, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF GOB MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COMMITTEE FOR ART AND CULTURE, WILL BE IN U.S. AUGUST 22-29 TO ATTEND 14TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HISTORIANS IN SAN FRANCISCO. HE IS IN OVER-ALL CHARGE OF THRACIAN ARTS EXHIBIT. WE HAVE ASKED FOL TO FIND TIME DURING HIS U.S. STAY TO COME TO WASHINGTON FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSIONS WITH SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION RE PROPOSED THRACIAN ARTS EXHIBIT VISIT TO U.S. DURING 1977. FOL HAS AGREED; BUT HIS ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO WILL BE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, EN ROUTE FROM SAN FRANCISCO BACK TO SOFIA.

2. ALTHOUGH THAT IS LABOR DAY WEEKEND, WE HOPE DEPT WILL BE ABLE PREVAIL UPON APPROPRIATE SMITHSONIAN OFFICIALS TO HOST FOL. DISCUSSION SHOULD NOT BE ON NUTS-AND-BOLTS BASIS, UNLESS FOL UNEXPECTEDLY MOVES INTO DETAILS, BUT SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON SMITHSONIAN'S FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITIES IN ARRANGING EXHIBIT TOUR. PRESENCE OF DEPT (CU) OFFICIAL, WHO COULD DESCRIBE SOURCES FOR ASSISTANCE WHICH SMITHSONIAN COULD NOT PROVIDE -- AND NOTE WHAT BULGARIANS MUST PROVIDE THEMSELVES -- WOULD BE MOST USEFUL.

3. FOL WILL LEAVE BULGARIA ABOUT AUGUST 15. WHILE IN
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U.S. HE CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH GOB EMBASSY IN WASH-

INGTON OR DIRECTLY AT THE SAN FRANCISCO CONGRESS.
PLEASE ADVISE US WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE. FYI: FOL
SPEAKS VERY LITTLE ENGLISH BUT GOOD FRENCH.

4. BULGARIANS HAVE INFORMALLY TOLD US THEY WOULD WELCOME
SMITHSONIAN REPRESENTATIVE HERE SOMETIME IN LATTER HALF
SEPTEMBER, TO DISCUSS CONCRETE DETAILS OF AGREEMENT ON
U.S. TOUR. THIS SEEMS TO US APPROPRIATE, ASSUMING
DISCUSSIONS WITH FOL INDICATE MEETING OF MINDS IS
POSSIBLE.

5. PRESENT EXHIBIT SCHEDULE: DEC 1975 TO MARCH 1976
LONDON (CONFIRMED); APRIL TO MAY 1976 SOFIA (CONFIRMED);
JUNE TO AUGUST 1976 IRAN (TENTATIVE - TEHRAN AND
POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE); OCT 1976 TO JAN 1977 CUBA (TENTATIVE
-- HAVANA AND POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE); "1977 FOR SIX
MONTHS" (MARCH - AUGUST) U.S. ("IF AGREED").
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